

NEW JERSEY STATEN ISLAND

HER PATH TO OFFICE BY NO MEANS CLEAR.

Englewood, N. J., Stirred Up
Over Miss Sterling's
Plucky Fight.

WOMEN A UNIT FOR HER.

Vote and Constitutional Question
Must Be Decided in Her
Favor Before She Wins.

HER FITNESS ACKNOWLEDGED.

But the Question of Whether a Woman
Can Legally Hold Elective Office
in New Jersey Must Be De-
cided in Her Favor.

Shall Miss Adaline W. Sterling be per-
mitted to become a member of the Board
of Education?

That is the question which is agitating
the women of the men, too, of the little
city of Englewood, in Bergen County.

The Englewood Common Council will
to settle it to-night, but the issue is doubt-
ful. After all, the courts may be called on
to say whether Miss Sterling was elected,
and, when they have decided that, they
will have to consider whether, as a female,
she is eligible under the New Jersey Con-
stitution to be elected to any public office.

Miss Sterling ran for member of the Board
of Education last week in the First Ward
on the Democratic ticket. Her opponent
was Huyler Bogert, whose name was on the
Republican ticket. She is the first woman
who ever ran for such an office in any of
the cities of New Jersey. When the votes
were counted it was found that exactly 100
ballots had been cast for her, and exactly
the same number for her Republican anti-
agonist. Under the law by which Englewood
was incorporated the Common Council is
empowered to settle by a vote of its mem-
bers any ties which might arise in a local
election. That is why the Common Council
is going to make an effort to settle the
matter to-night.

But right there another difficulty arises.
The Council is composed of two Democrats
and two Republicans. Mayor D. A. Currie
cannot vote at all. Miss Sterling will get
the two Democratic votes all right, but
there is an equal certainty of Mr. Bogert
getting the two Republican votes.

But even though the women of the city,
who have taken a vacation from house-
hold cares to look after Miss Sterling's
interests, succeeded in persuading one of the
Republicans to vote for her candidate,
the trouble wouldn't be half over, because
Mayor Currie's brow is becoming
wrinkled over the question of her eligi-
bility, and the lawyers of the city, all of
whom do business in New York, have dis-
cussed the question each morning and night
on the Tenaday lightning express, and the
question is still enveloped in darkest doubt.

A Popular School Teacher.

Miss Sterling is a woman of mature years,
positive character, extensive education and
dignity. She is of robust form and com-
manding presence. Every man, woman and
child in Englewood knows her. She used
to run a select private school, and her
methods were held to be right up to
date. So popular was her school that the
local public school was slimly attended
and was merely kept going as a matter of
form.

Miss Sterling took up magazine and news-
paper work and gave up her school. As a
member of the Woman's Club of Engle-
wood she was always prominent in mat-
ters concerning not only the club's social
life but in matters pertaining to public
health and progress. Nobody knows ex-
actly how she came to be a candidate for
member of the Board of Education in
the Democratic ticket. She says she
didn't know.

"It just came natural," was the only
explanation her friends can make, but all
the same there are quiet hints that she
was the primary motive in the First
Ward members of the Woman's Club
got together and decided that the time
was ripe to "put" in a local police com-
missioner, who refuses to be inter-
viewed by reporters and modestly declines
to furnish her photo for publication, is said
to have taken no part in the election last
week.

"She just went out to New York on elec-
tion day," said her friend, Mrs. Dr. Prosser,
yesterday, "and she didn't come back
until it was all over. Why, if her friends
knew the vote was so close they could have
done more in the cause of education in
Englewood than any other single person.
She would be of more benefit to the city in
the Board of Education than any one else
could possibly be. I am sure I don't see
why the Common Council should hesitate to
elect her. The original act did not
prefer to see some ignorant man in the
place."

That is about the way all Englewood
women are talking. No man dares to ques-
tion Miss Sterling's literary and teaching
qualifications for the position. Even Ed-
ward Peterson, the Englewood editor, who
is a Republican paper, promptly told the
Journal reporter yesterday that he thought
Miss Sterling the most efficient
person for the place.

"She is a woman of talent and learning,"
he said, "and has always been a credit to
the city. But I don't think how she be-
came elected to any public office while the
constitution remains as it is."

Mayor Currie, who is a Democrat, sent
a message to the Common Council last
week, in which he raised the question as to
the legality of the entire election. All the
present officials of Englewood were elected
for two years, and their terms are about
to expire. The late Legislature, however,
passed an amendment to the act under
which Englewood was incorporated, fixing
the term of officials at three years. The
Mayor claims that the original act did not
clearly define the length of time officials
should serve, and the recent amendment
was passed to fix the point definitely.
Hence, he contends, all the present offi-
cials of Englewood have another year to
serve, and the election last week, there-
fore, was illegal.

The Mayor's contention raises one more
abstruse in Miss Sterling's path to public
office.

A few years ago the New Jersey Legisla-
ture passed a law extending the right of
franchise to women in school elections.
About a year ago the Supreme Court de-
clared the act unconstitutional, claiming
that women could not vote in any election
until the right shall be extended by the

Constitution. Women have not voted at
school elections in the State since the de-
cision was rendered. There is a pend-
ing, however, a constitutional amendment
granting women suffrage in school elec-
tions. It was passed by the late Legisla-
ture, but as the Legislature of 1896,
and will be voted upon by the people of the
State next November.

Miss Sterling's friends are going to ig-
nore the legal points raised and try to
secure her the election from the Common
Council.

It is not within the province of the
Common Council to decide that she is not eli-
gible just because she is a woman, said a
member of the Woman's Club. The duty
of the Council begins and ends with
settling the tie between the two candi-
dates before the people. If Miss Sterling
is not eligible, that matter must be de-
cided by the Legislature, or the Common
Council, if Miss Sterling should be elected the
question of eligibility can be settled in a
regular way by the gentleman members
refusing to recognize her. We would then
take steps to enforce her recognition by
mandamus or other proceedings, and that
would probably bring about development of
the proper authority as to whether the
people have the right to place a woman in
an office if they so choose.

The Woman's Club held a meeting at
their rooms yesterday. Their action on
the matter was not divulged, but it may
materialize at to-night's Council meeting.

BOAT BUILDERS AT ODDS.

Court to Settle Whether Randall or John-
son Shall Repair Weigand's
Yacht.

The right of the owner to have repairs
made to his yacht by whom he pleases will
come up in a few days for adjudication before
Justice of the Peace Tienan at Tompkins-
ville.

Isaac Randall leases a boat yard on the
flats at Stapleton, that for many years has
been filled every Winter by the boats be-
longing to the Staten Island and other
yacht clubs. The owners have paid to have
the boats hauled up and cared for during
the Winter months. Mr. Randall is a boat
builder and has been in the habit of doing
the repairing for the Staten Island Club.

Among the boats laid up in the yard last
Fall was the Marama, owned by Mr. Weigand,
superintendent of the Malt Drying
Company, of Stapleton. She is listed under
the Staten Island Club colors. When Mr.
Weigand recently engaged William V. John-
son to repair his boat Randall resolved that
no other boat builder or men employed by
a rival should have his yard.

There had never been a fence about the
yard, and John had been in the habit of setting
up a fence about the flats. Yesterday
morning Johnson arrived with his tools
and material, accompanied by Randall, and
proceeded to the boat. Randall left the
yard at once and went to Tompkins-
ville, where he obtained a warrant charging
Johnson with malicious trespass. John-
son was arrested and released for a hearing.

Randall says he would not mind so much
if any other boat builder than Johnson
had been called in to do the work, but
he will not allow Johnson in the yard. He
says he is willing to launch the boat, and
Mr. Weigand can take it where he pleases.
Johnson, who is a member of the Staten
Island Club, has been in the habit of being
permitted to have the boat repaired before
it is launched, and says he will fight the
case for Johnson.

HAS OSTRICH STOMACH.

Insane Philip Armenio Chewed Up Table-
cloth, Glass and Pieces of a
Broken Knife.

"The most wonderful thing about Philip
Armenio is his digestive powers," said Dr.
W. T. Ten Eyck, of Franklin Park, to a
Journal reporter yesterday in speaking of
the crazed Italian who made so much
trouble for several residents of Franklin
Park Sunday morning. "While he was
storming about the room where he had
confined himself he chewed up half of a
white tablecloth, broke a pane of glass and
crunched bits of it between his teeth,
smashed one of the knives he was brandish-
ing and ground pieces in his jaws. He has
a wonderful set of teeth."

Armenio, who is in the jail at New
Brunswick, has clung to a small Bible all
through his insane pranks, and now seems
to take much comfort in reading it. His
hurling and other acts are the result of an
intense religious spirit.

He was found early Sunday morning by
Abraham Beckman perched on top of Beck-
man's barn with a wagon in the road. A
neek, seven butcher knives stuck in his
hat band and a stiletto stuck in his coat.
When Beckman asked him what he was
doing he said he was eating the tablecloth.

"My friends, do not disturb me. I have
just dropped from heaven and am a mes-
senger to the earth. As I fell I saw the
crazed Italian who made so much trouble
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BOSS AWAY HEY, CATT AGREE.

Republican Leaders in Jer-
sey City Await Dick-
inson's Return.

LOOKS LIKE SURRENDER.

Street Commissioner Weastell
Openly Declares in Favor
of Capitulation.

The Republican Executive Committee of
Jersey City is still divided over the ques-
tion of surrendering the city offices to
Mayor-elect Edward Hoos and other suc-
cessful Democratic candidates. The Demo-
cratic leaders say it makes no difference
whether the Republicans turn over the
offices or not. Mr. Hoos will most certainly
assume the reins of government on May 3.

City Treasurer S. D. Dickinson, the
"boss" of the Republican party, will re-
turn from Old Point Comfort to-morrow.
Interesting developments may then be
looked for. Before he left Jersey City the
Colonel was reappointed to the office term
of two years by Mayor Wanser. His re-
appointment, before any others were an-
nounced, led to the rumor that the Republi-
cans will surrender the offices without
a fight.

Mayor Wanser and other party leaders
would not discuss the matter. Mayor-elect
Hoos and ex-Sheriff Robert Davis, the Demo-
cratic leader, are being daily besieged by
office hunters. The Mayor-elect has but few
offices to fill. It will not be until next year
that he will be able to parcel out his plums.

The Third Ward Democratic Club last
night selected Mr. Hoos as its house on
Jersey avenue.

Street and Water Commissioner John H.
Weastell stated yesterday:

"I have not authorized any one to say I am
opposed to capitulating, and although I have
retained from expressing any opinion pub-
licly on the question, I have in the councils
of the party advocated for political reasons
that no contest be made and the present
officials quietly surrender."

His election muddle assumed a new
phase yesterday when Allen L. McDermott,
counsel for Charles F. Herr, the Democrat
in the Board of Works, announced before
Judge Deane, of the Supreme Court, and
asked for an order for the opening of the
ballot box of the Second District of the
First Ward, so that a proper return might
be made. The application was opposed by
Joseph Coult, counsel for the Republican
candidate, John H. Burkhardt, and the
matter was postponed until to-day, so that
the law and authorities bearing on the case
could be considered.

The District of the First Ward is the
district where, by an error, 101 votes
were credited to Mr. Herr, when he was
entitled to 107. The error was admitted
by the four election officers of the district,
and Mr. McDermott explained to the court
that the order for the opening of the ballot
box was requested in order that the tally
sheet when he is in the hands of the
return made. If the latter had been done in
the first case Mr. Herr would have been
elected by six votes.

Opposed to the application Mr. Coult
said that, according to his understanding,
the court had not authority to order the
opening of the ballot box in such a case.
When the return was ordered, it was neces-
sary that all the ballot boxes should be
opened and all the votes cast at the elec-
tion counted. He quoted the 29th of the
Revised Statutes, which provides that, if
any candidate for any office, within ten
days after election, shall present a petition
to the Board of Works, or to the Board of
the city, in writing to one of the justices
of the Supreme Court, etc., it shall be
the duty of the court to order the opening
of the ballot box to be taken, and on the conclusion
of the recount the justice shall certify the
result thereof, and the certificate shall be
the basis of the election.

Mr. Coult confessed his lack of familiar-
ity with the law, and asked the court to
grant him time to make a proper argu-
ment in order that he might look up the
law. His request was granted.

It was evidently the purpose of the Re-
publicans to force the Democrats to ask
for the usual recount, in which case the
cost of the contest would fall upon the
latter.

FOOTPADS OVERLOOK A PRIZE.

Henry Thoms, Attacked in Union Hill, Lost
His Watch, but Kept \$125.

Henry Thoms, a builder, of Prince avenue,
Union Hill, while returning home late Sun-
day night with his wife and child, was
set upon and brutally beaten by three
footpads.

Thoms and his wife had been to New
York, and upon alighting from a trolley car
at Bergenline and Pierce avenues, started
to walk to their home, which is near the
Hoboken station. They were within a
short distance of their home when the
three men sprang upon them from the
shadow of an old brick struck Thoms on
the head with some blunt instrument and
another caught him by the throat. The blow
caused him to fall, and he lay on his back,
rendered Thoms unconscious. Quickly
relaying the unconscious man of his
watch and some change, the footpads
disappeared in the direction of the Secaucus
meadows.

Mrs. Thoms's cries brought assistance,
but not until the robbers had gone. She
then called to her husband and his
wounds were dressed by Dr. Rooney.

In their haste the footpads overlooked
a gold watch and concealed in the in-
side pocket of his vest.

SHE LEAPED FROM A WINDOW.

Aged Mrs. Bucklew, Crazed with the Grip,
Then Jumped Into a Pond.

JERSEY MELONS AND CABBAGE DOUGER.

Myriad Insect Foes March-
ing Northward from
Maryland.

RTUTGERS SOUNDS ALARM.

College Entomologist and Poet
Join in Warning Truck
Farmers of Their Peril.

Murgantiae histrionicae are coming purty soon;
There's blight upon the cabbage patch and blood
upon the moca.

Their awful devastation makes the luckless farm-
er's woe.

While they go marching thro' Jersey.

(Chorus.)

Hurrah, they're off! Three hundred feet a day.
Take care, beware! That's what the wise men
say.

Poor Camden's in a state of siege—they're com-
ing now this way.

While they go marching thro' Jersey.

Our scientific warriors are all drawn up in line,
And General Smith rides to the front upon his
hobby horse;

His right arm wields a fountain pen, his left a
bold design:

"The Big Bug Bulwarks of New Jersey."

(Chorus.)

Hurrah, we're safe! Camduns are in store;
Ten quarts of ink and pamphlets by the score;
Oceans of insecticides and Latin words galore;
Defence for the troopers of New Jersey.

How these preparations the invaders will as-
sist;

How their mottled jackets in retreat will soon
be found;

How the timid cabbages will blossom from the
ground,

When they are driven from New Jersey.

Hurrah, take aim! Come on, ye barbagues;
Our microscopes will show that Science wins.

Break their wings both left and right and run
them through with pins;

So to all the foe bugs of New Jersey.

The news of the coming of an army of
gnawing invaders inspired a Rutgers Col-
lege student to write the above stirring
verses.

Professor John B. Smith, entomologist in
the New Jersey State Experiment Building,
and assistant to Rutgers University, New
Brunswick, N. J., has come forward with the
alarming intelligence that the forces of the
"chadon cabbage bug" and the "melon
plant louse" have entered the State, and
are marching northward and are likely to de-
vastate the crops during the Summer by
their voracious feeding on melons.

The professor issued a pamphlet on
Thursday containing several pages of in-
teresting information about these bugs.
They originated in Maryland and started to
migrate some time before the advent of
Coxey's army, and, unlike that famous
band, have been marching ever since.

Although these voracious insects have
special predilections for cabbage and
melons, the pamphlet goes on to state
that they will feed on almost any vegetable
of Spring asparagus. The professor has
also received information that up to mid-
summer the harlequins seem to prefer rad-
ishes to cabbage. The diminutive maraud-
ers seek winter quarters under rubbish
about farms, and Professor Smith remarks
that he has seen them in the past.

In this fact: "Don't keep rubbish on your
farm and the bugs won't be able to find
winter quarters there," he says.

He has written a pamphlet on the subject
of the insects, and has sent it to his
representatives in Southern New Jersey, if
they observe any specimen of either cab-
bage or melon, they should seize him bod-
ily and communicate with the professor at
his station, and the prisoner will be properly
disposed of, and this with the scientific
method.

The melon louse's tastes are slightly dif-
ferent from its companion on foot. It has
a preference for fruits, but occasionally
dines on various kinds of weeds. Its bills
of fare vary from peppercorn to pear
trees. In the melon season farmers who
are about to plant the insect sprinkle
their melon plants with kerosene, and Pro-
fessor Smith remarks that the best plan
is to pull up every "lousy" bill in the field.
The parasite has been found on the leaves
of the melon plant, and in a clam shell.
Kerosene is also mentioned as good for the
farmers, but not the bugs, with the re-
sult that the bugs are not exterminated
on cabbages, as it injures both taste and
odor of that vegetable when stewed.

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that the bugs are not exterminated on cab-
bage, as it injures both taste and odor of
that vegetable when stewed.

EXTEND WATER CONTRACT.

Jersey City Boards and East Jersey Company
Agree Upon Terms
Until 1900.

The Jersey City Board of Finance and
the Street and Water Commissioners last
night adopted resolutions extending the
temporary water contract with the East
Jersey Water Company from September 24, 1897,
to September 24, 1900. The company agrees
to reduce the price from \$45 per million
gallons to \$37 for the first year and \$36
for the subsequent period. It also agrees
to abandon its suit to recover \$250,000 for
water already supplied, and to deduct \$60,
000 from the bill for water supplied since
the contract was made. The company agrees
to take a part of its supply from Little Falls.
The contract may be abrogated by the
city after six months, or by the company
after twelve months. The contract may be
extended yearly after 1900, as long as the
city wishes. The resolutions will go to
Mayor Wanser to-day.

WHERE PELTZ'S MEMORY FAILS.

Only Remembers Hitting the Nitro-Glycerine
Post with His Hammer.

The coroner's jury called to investigate
the cause of the explosion on John Cook's
property at Scotch Plains, N. J., three
weeks ago, met at the Muhlenberg Hospi-
tal, Plainfield, N. J., yesterday morning, to
hear the testimony of Robert Peltz, who
was seriously injured. It was found neces-
sary, owing to Peltz's deafness and poor
command of English, to ask questions by
writing, and hear answers through an in-
terpreter.

Peltz said that he could not tell how the
explosion occurred, any more than that he
struck a post with a hammer, and that he
was saturated with nitro-glycerine, two or
three sharp blows with a hammer, and he
remembers nothing further. He had been
picked up in an injured condition after the
explosion.

Organ Break Mrs. Easter Mosan.

When the organist of St. Peter's Roman
Catholic Church, of New Brunswick, N. J.,
started to play the Easter music Sunday
morning no sound issued from the organ.
A hasty examination showed that a valve
leading from the bellows was broken. It
could not be repaired in time to go on
with the services, so the church sexton
went to the organ and held the valve in
place. A part of the music was rendered
in this manner, and later on a smaller
organ was placed in use.

Father Machinski Plends Not Guilty.

The Rev. Father John Machinski, sixty
years old, rector of St. Mary's Catholic
Church, in the Polish colony east of Pal-
sades Park, pleaded not guilty before Judge
Van Valen, at Hackensack, N. J., yester-
day to an indictment charging him with
abducting Mary, the twelve-year-old child
of Henry Slavinski, and was released under
\$800 bail. The child, who had been re-
covered, admits that Father Machinski
took her to Brooklyn, where she was placed
with a family as a domestic.

T. A. B.'S DEFEY BISHOP WIGGER.

Threat of Excommunication
Fails to Conquer the
Young Men.

ABSOLUTION IS WITHHELD.

Quarrel Began Between Elizabeth-
port Priest and Temperance
Society Members.

The fight between Bishop Wigger, of the
Newark Diocese, and the Father Mathew
Total Abstinence and Benevolent Society
of Elizabeth, N. J., practically reached its
culmination on Easter Sunday. The "T. A.
B.'s," as they are known in Elizabeth,
consist of two hundred and twenty-eight
young men, all of whom, except forty-eight,
belong to St. Patrick's Roman Catholic
Church, of Elizabethport. The forty-eight
are members of other Catholic churches in
Elizabeth. The society was originally a
church organization, under the direction of
Rev. Father Gessner, rector of St. Patrick's.

About a year ago four young men, mem-
bers of the society, gave an entertainment
at the Zeune Armory (that lasted until 2
o'clock in the morning). Only temperance
drinks were sold, and the entertainment
was a success. The expenses of the society,
but Father Gessner is said to have taken
unbribe and to have demanded that the
"T. A. B.'s" should expel the young men
from the society.

This the society refused to do, and from
that time on he feud between the rector
and the young men grew apace, until
finally Bishop Wigger was appealed to.

Last Summer the society gave an excu-
sion, and, just before the event, the
bishop promulgated an order to extend
throughout the diocese that no young
women of the diocese should be permitted
to remain at picnics, balls or excursions
later than 9 p. m. unattended by their
parents or guardians. The T. A. B.'s re-
garded this order as meant for them, as
their excursion but would not return until
a much later hour, and all the girls of St.
Patrick's were "just crazy" to go.

Father Gessner was at the dock to warn
the girls not to go under penalty of excom-
munication, but about four hundred of
them stole a march on him, and went by
train to Bergen Point, where the boat
stopped for them. This caused the prac-
tical separation of the T. A. B.'s from the
church.

Last Fall the young men raised some
money and built a clubhouse costing \$7,000.
Seven members of the club, if it should
ever become so small, can still control
this valuable property and keep up the
club's existence. John A. Ryan is presi-
dent.

About a month ago four Redemptionists
went to Elizabeth from their home in New
York to conduct a revival or mission in St.
Patrick's cathedral. To them the
T. A. B.'s went to confession, as Father
Gessner had refused to even receive them
unless they dissolved their society. The
young men fled into the confessionals one
after the other, and were each told by the
Redemptionists who was assigned to hear
confessions that by order of Bishop Wigger
unless they disbanded the society they could
not receive absolution. This was a hard
blow, as the Catholic who falls to thus per-
form his Easter duties and is absolved in
ground and is generally in a trying position
from a church standpoint.

Bishop Wigger's order has not yet been
extended to the other priests of Elizabeth,
and many of the young men of the parish
and the other parishes there for abso-
lution. Bishop Wigger can, of course,
order any priest to refuse to refuse to
absolve any of the objectionable T.
B.'s, but if this should be done there is still
left in this country where they can go
A. Henry Hill, pastor of St. Scholastica's
parish, in Newark, has refused to refuse to
absolve any of the objectionable T.
B.'s, but if this should be done there is still
left in this country where they can go

As the Catholic Church has refused to
absolve any of the objectionable T.
B.'s, but if this should be done there is still
left in this country where they can go

The threat is made to excommunicate the
228 young men, who are among the
richest and best known in Catholic circles
in the city.

Bishop Wigger says that if necessary to
hold his discipline he will so fix it
that the bishops of all dioceses will go to
him and refuse the recalcitrant T. A. B.'s abso-
lution.

There means practically excommunication,
and there is no most intense interest in
the fight manifested in the circles con-
cerned. The young men say they will never
yield.

WHITE WIFE, MULATTO MATE.